UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

CHEMICAL EXPOSURE AND ITS POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS AMONG WORKERS AT A SOLAR CELL MANUFACTURING FACTORY

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Project paper submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor in Environmental Health and Safety (Hons.)

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Declaration by Student

Project entitled "Chemical Exposure and Its Potential Heal Effects among Workers at Solar Cell Manufacturing Factory" is a presentation of my original research work. Wherever contributions of others are involved, every effort is made to indicate this clearly, with due reference to the literature, and acknowledgement of collaborative research and discussions. The project was done under the guidance of En Hashim B Ahmad as Project Supervisor and En Nasaruddin B Abd Rahman as Co-supervisor. It has been submitted to the Faculty of Health Sciences in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Bachelor in Environmental Health and Safety (Hons).

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITL	E PAGE	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT		ii
TABLE OF CONTENTS		iii
LIST OF TABLES		vi
LIST OF FIGURES		vii
LIST OF APPENDICES		viii
LIST	OF ABBREVIATION	ix
ABS	TRACT	x
ABSTRAK		хi
СНА	PTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	
1.1	Background Information	1
1.2	Problem Statement	3
1.3	Study Justification	4
1.4	Study Objectives	
	1.4.1 General Objective	5
	1.4.2 Specific Objectives	5
1.5	Study Hypothesis	5
1.6	Conceptual Framework	6
1.7	Conceptual and Operational Definitions	7
	•	
CHA	APTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1	Legal Requirement	8
2.2	Material Safety Data Sheet	9

ABSTRACT

Chemical Exposure and Its Potential Health Effects among Workers at a Solar Cell Manufacturing Factory

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Introduction: This study is a cross sectional study which involve workers from solar cell manufacturing factory. 60 samples of workers who exposed to the chemicals were taken. Objective: To measure the chemical exposure among workers in the solar cell manufacturing factory, to determine the risk rating of the selected chemicals by carry out a chemical health risk assessment on selected chemicals in solar cell manufacturing factor and to identify the effects of the chemical exposure towards workers health Methodology: Simple random samplings are used to select the subjects and they have been selected based on inclusive criteria; workers who exposed to chemicals, working average over an entire 8 hours workday and agreed to joint this study. For chemical exposure monitoring; Gil-Air5 was used to the workers who exposed over an eight hour work shift to varying type of chemicals. Besides, a close ended multiple choice was done to identify the health effects from the exposure to the chemicals. Results: Based on the reading obtained, the level of chemical exposure in the solar cell manufacturing was below the standard set in OSHA 1994. While from the conducted survey, most of the workers are aware with the chemical used in their workplace/processes. However, based on the statistical analysis it shows that there is a significant difference between working experience and the health effects for dizziness, headache and irritation on nose, eye and throat among the workers with [p<0.05]. Conclusion: Although the chemical exposure was below the standard, the company needs to ensure that the exposure will not cause a chronic effect for the constant and long time exposure.

Keywords: chemical exposure, health effects, solar cell